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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/824,318	04/14/2004	Rick L. Allison	1322/156	6671

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EXAMINER	
PHAN, MAN U	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2616	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/824,318	ALLISON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Man Phan	2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *14 April 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-40* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-40* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *4/14/04*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The application of Allison et al. for the "methods and systems for mobile application part (MAP) screening in transit networks" filed 04/14/2004 has been examined. Claims 1-40 are pending in the present application.

2. The applicant should use this period for response to thoroughly and very closely proof read and review the whole of the application for correct correlation between reference numerals in the textual portion of the Specification and Drawings along with any minor spelling errors, general typographical errors, accuracy, assurance of proper use for Trademarks ™, and other legal symbols @, where required, and clarity of meaning in the Specification, Drawings, and specifically the claims (i.e., provide proper antecedent basis for "the" and "said" within each claim). Minor typographical errors could render a Patent unenforceable and so the applicant is strongly encouraged to aid in this endeavor.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 24, 27-30, 34-38 are objected to because of the following informalities: The claims contains the phrase *"adapted to"*. It has been held that the recitation that an element is "*adapted to*" perform a function is not a positive limitation but only requires the ability to so perform. It does not constitute a limitation in any patentable sense. *In re Hutchison, 69 USPQ 138.* Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claims 1-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sjodin (US#6,097,948) in view of Irten et al. (US#6,308,075).

With respect to claim 24-26, 39-40, the references disclose a novel system and method for routing MAP message based on the called party address information, according to the essential features of the claims. Sjodin (US#6,097,948) discloses in Figs. 1-2 the block diagrams illustrated for routing message to a short message service center comprising receiving a message having a signaling connection control part and mobile application part. Sjodin teaches a network element for receiving a signaling message containing mobile application part (MAP) protocol information and screening the message based on the MAP protocol information the network

element comprising: a communication module capable of receiving from a communication network and transmitting to a communication network a signaling message including MAP information (figure 1, communication module: mobility server (48) of communication system (10) with MAP interfaces consistent with the GSM system, column 5, lines 34- 54, column 6, lines 35-65 and MAP: column 7, lines 29-45), a transaction , SCCP screening process for receiving the signaling message from the communication module and determining whether the signaling message is a candidate for MAP screening based on at least one SCCP parameter in the signaling message (figure 6, conventional control stack comprising the TCAP, SCCP and MTP layers where the screening program is incorporated within the SCCP (column 10, lines 1-44 and column 11, lines 1-37 and determining screening candidates: column 12, lines 26-34), a MAP screening process for in response to receiving the message from the SCCP screening process, analyzing the MAP information to determine whether authorization is required for routing the signaling message to a destination node (column 11, line 40 to column 12, line 55).

However, Sjodin (US#6,097,948) does not disclose expressly the step of matching the destination network based SCCP screening criteria for each message. In the same field of endeavor, Irten et al. (US#6,308,075) teaches the claimed method for routing message to a short message service center includes determining an entity type for the message based on signaling connection control part and in response to determining that entity type indicates message is destined for SMSC, performing a lookup in an address translation database using the MIN from mobile application part of message to locate address for SMSC and routing message is disclosed by when short message is received at processing system (Figure 3a, step 20a), a determination is made if destination address is home to local MC (element 10) i.e. if phone number of handset

matches a specific profile (Figure 3a, step 20c) in local subscriber database (element 14c) and message is forwarded to home MC of destination (*the step of matching the destination network based SCCP screening criteria for each message*).

Regarding claims 27-30, Sjodin teaches in response to receiving notification from the MAP screening process that authorization is required for the signaling message, the SCCP screening process is adapted to perform authorization screening on the signaling message based on at least one SCCP parameter in the signaling message (check parameter procedure, column 12, lines 26-34); performing authorization screening based on a calling party address value in the signaling message (destination address: column 12, lines 35-46), and routing the message to the destination in response to determining that the signaling message passes the authorization screening (column 12, lines 35-55).

Regarding claims 31-37, Sjodin teaches a network element to provide screening of mobility management such as MAP and other signaling messages, column 14, lines 30- 41 and column 13, lines 35-47, where specific cited MAP messages include destination or origination address information, column 12, lines 35-55, anytime interrogation (ATI) service and short message service (SMS), applicant's admitted prior art - specification, page 2, lines 9-19.

Regarding claim 38, Irten further teaches performing a lookup in a first database indexed by single of mobile identification numbers using the IMSI-based extracted from MAP portion of message and in response to failing to locate the address in first database, performing a lookup in a second database using an entity address extracted from SCCP of message is disclosed by determination made if destination address is home to local MC (element 10) i.e. if phone number of handset matches a specific profile (Figure 3a, step 20c) in local subscriber database (element

14c) and message is forwarded to home MC of destination and if point code/sub-system number is in MC route table (element 14d), short message is routed using PC/SSN or global title translation is attempted for routing using MIN-to-MC translation. Routing is done by first trying one routing technique and then if the other is one is not achievable. See column 3, lines 9-44.

Regarding claims 1-23, they are method claims corresponding to the apparatus claims 24-40 above. Therefore, claims 1-23 are analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to the claims 24-40 above.

One skilled in the art of communications would recognize the need for facilitating MAP messages over multiple networks utilizing the called party address information connectivity, and would apply Irten's teaching of the routing short messages between multiple message centers into Sjodin's novel use of the signaling between separate wireless communication networks. Therefore, It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to apply Irten's method and apparatus for routing short messages into Sjodin's signaling channel firewall for communications between wireless networks with the motivation being to provide a system and method for screening MAP messages in a transit network.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The Schwalb (US#2005/0141552) is cited to show the conveying transactional messages for GSM mobile operators over two disparate networks.

The McCann et al. (US#6,990,347) is cited to show the methods and systems for mobile application part (MAP) screening.

The McCann et al. (US#7,035,239) is cited to show the methods and systems for routing messages in a communications network.

The West, Jr. et al. (US#6,836,477) is cited to show the methods and systems for routing messages in a communications network.

The McCann (US#6,993,038) is cited to show the methods and systems for automatically provisioning address translation information in a mobile service node address translation database.

The Drum et al. (US#6,456,845) is cited to show the methods and systems for observing, analyzing and correlating multi-protocol signaling message traffic in a mobile telecommunications network.

The Allison et al. (US#7,113,781) is cited to show the methods and systems for generating and sending messages in a mobile communications network in response to a change in location of a subscriber.

The Allison et al. (US#7,092,505) is cited to show the methods and systems for universal, automatic service selection in a telecommunications signaling network.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Phan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3149. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri from 6:00 to 3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Jay Patel, can be reached on (571) 272-2988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have any questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at toll free 1-866-217-9197.

Mphan

08/07/2007.

MAN U. PHAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER